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NIAGARA NEWS

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16 pages

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Smoking policy

Committee sets designated areas

By FRAN YANOR
Staff Writer

As of Jan. 2, smoking will be permitted in five designated areas at the Welland campus and three at the St. Catharines campus, while four other locations will be smoke-free, according to suggestions by the smoking policy committee.

Although these areas have not been finalized, the recommendations are:

Welland Campus: the mini caf, beside the bookstore,

Simcoe Building, first floor, behind the Hamilton Room,

Black Walnut, 25 per cent of cafeteria,

Hennepin Hall, staff lounge

Mackenzie, a south-easterly corridor

St. Catharines Campus: students, library storage room on first floor,

staff, room 135 and cloak room on second floor,

Niagara Falls Rainbow Centre: no change; smoke-free upon occupancy of new Hospitality Centre

St. Catharines Horticultural Centre: smoke-free

St. Catharines Mack Centre: smoke-free

Niagara Falls Mount Carmel: smoke-free

All Futures locations: smoke-free.

Signs identifying the areas should be posted before the Christmas holidays, committee member Rosemary Kuhnigk said.

These considerations came after the Board of Governors' decision in November to approve a new smoking policy for the college that restricts smoking to designated areas only as of Jan. 2, 1989, with a complete ban on smoking for Sept. 5.

The board adopted a variation of the policy approved by the President's Operating Committee (POC). They decided that the policy should be brought in in phases — instead of a cold turkey ban on smoking for next September — and advised that the college pick up the tab for anyone interested in participating in smoke cessation classes.

The committee decided to contact Smokenders for more information, and suggested the possibiltity of hiring the company to conduct smoke cessation classes for faculty and students.

The change of policy stems from a mandate handed down from Jacqueline Robarts, college president, to Hans van der Slagt, vice-president of administration and chairman of the committee, "to discuss the possibility of creating a smoke-free environment at Niagara College while, at the same time, recognizing the rights of smokers."

The committee spent two years researching the subject, after which they recommended a policy of smoking in designated areas only. That policy recommendation was later turned down and a completely smoke-free policy was recommended

College forecasts $900,000 additional deficit increase

By FRAN YANOR
Staff Writer

The college has forecast a $3 million shortfall between post-secondary funding and the estimated rate of inflation for the years 1990 to 1992, including a $900,000 increase in deficit projected for the year 1989/90, a report from the Budget Committee said last week.

The figures are based on assumptions — not as yet finalized — that the contributions from all activities other than post-secondary remain stable, the normal estimates for salary and fee increases are correct, and that "programs currently cancelled or suspended would not be reinstated."

MUST IMPROVE

"The college must improve its position by three to four per cent per year through a combination of activity increases...and improvements in productivity," — the Budget Committee said.It hopes to reduce the deficit from $1.3 million to $1 million by April 1989 by "not replacing staff, reducing or eliminating part time staff when possible and a five per cent reduction in supply budgets," Hans van der Slagt, vice president of administration and chairman of the committee, said this week.

The Ministry of Colleges and Universities simulation of a 2.4 per cent increase in post-secondary funding for Niagara is the basis for the projected shortfall. The committee recognizes, that "the College must continue to place pressure on the Ministry to correct what is generally viewed as a serious underfunding of the post-secondary activities at Niagara College."

The committee was formed of representiatives from the three employee groups and one student under the objective "of providing advice and assistance to the College in developing its financial plan for the coming years..." the report said. The college is aware that the recommendations are "not exhaustive" and invites staff, students and employee organizations to provide further suggestions.

The committee believes revenue can be generated through such things as the sale or development of the St. Catharines campus and land on the Welland campus, paid parking for all staff and students, and improvement of enrolment.

The college should also become more efficient and improve productivity with the potential of cutting services a possibility, the committee report said.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The committee has compiled a series of recommendation for consideration. They include:

-"a continuing and vigorous marketing and retention strategy" to improve student enrolment in and outside of the region

-continue to offer a variety of programs that include "a balanced mix" of profitable and unprofitable programs that "satisfy the community's need" while at the same time ensuring the college's "long-term financial viability"

-implement "cuts in services (if necessary)"

The committee also suggested that the college "initiate discussions. with the three employee groups, enlisting their co-operation," suggesting "in some instances, local agreements may need to be negotiated" in regards to some of the following recommendations:

-encourage all staff "to consider" taking advantage of a prepaid leave plan

-examine the "viability of all College positions"

-combine or eliminate functions for staff retirements or resignations as "reviewed by the President's Operating Committee"

-examine the feasibility of "differentiated staffing" wherever possible, i.e. using the most appropriate staff for the job that needs to be done

-review paid overtime and reduce to a minimum

-review the use of "unutilized periods of teaching" as permitted under the contract, (the difference between the number of hours permitted and the actual number taught)

-review the "determination of evaluation factor" pertaining to SWF

-request local unions to review current policy and process grievances "with a view to withdrawing them or settling them locally before arbitration"

-review the "determination of

See Budget pg. 16

I want a car and a ....

Childhood memories; sitting on Santa Claus' knee is carried in the hearts of many adults. Remembering the annual event when they would, in all seriousness, tell Santa Claus what they wanted and needed for Christmas. Santa and this child look up from their important discussion held in the Seaway Mall on Monday Night.

Photo by Anne Hofsink

Letters to the Editor

Clinic organizer says thanks

Dear Editor:

The Canadian Red Cross Society, Welland Branch would like to thank you for your excellent coverage that you gave the Niagara College Blood Clinic.

It was a successful clinic with 75 new Donors. We needed each and every Donor to get us over the critical shortage of Blood that occurs over the Christmas Holidays.

We firmly believe that your publicity helped us to attain our quota.

In closing, please accept our sincere thanks to everyone that assisted us in so many ways — SAC, Niagara News, Kerry, Our Volunteers and to the Donors — Season Greetings.

Sincerely
Marjorie Frith
Clinic Organizer

Conlon lauds Niagara News

Dear Editor

The year is about half over and I'm taking this opportunity to congratulate and thank the staff of the Niagara News for their excellent coverage of not only SAC-related issues, but for putting out six solid newspapers.

It makes me feel pretty proud of Niagara College when I attend conferences which include the 21 other SAC presidents and I hear nothing but good things about our newspapers!

I'd like to also extend a personal thanks to Gail Atkinson who wrote an excellent story on Sheila Musgrove. Sheila was our guest speaker at out recent OCCSPA conference, and her asistance was invaluable.

The rest of the Niagara News staff, under the exceptional instruction of Barbara Blue, Austin Jelbert and Gord Lawson, is doing a fine job and it can only get better next term! Keep up the good work, guys.

Sincerely.
Randy Conlon
SAC President

Robertson knocks coverage

Dear Editor:

In response to your article, "They forgot..." I find it insulting that you did not acknowledge the fact that Campus Radio Niagara College did broadcast a Remembrance Day ceremony. I do not know if the volume was up in the cafeteria, but there was two minutes of silence and a special prepared by Dave Leach broadcast throughout other parts of the college. If anyone in your newsroom had bothered to listen, these omissions would not have been made.

I have also tried numerous times to get co-operation from your organization — to no avail. Are you afraid to give another medium coverage? At other colleges the campus radio stations get recognition, but here we are faced with non-existant funds for promotion. Therefore, it is unfair for people to judge us against commercial radio stations in the area! Would the Niagara News like to be compared to the Toronto Star?

The reason we don't broadcast out of the college is because it costs a lot of money. Radio in this country is a multi-million dollar industry. Records and equipment cost money. We do what we can with what we have. Our instructors have many years' experience in the industry and I wouldn't be surprised if they dropped you a line for even suggesting they would forget our war dead.

Radio students at this college have produced award-winning specials. We also have many grads in top positions in major market stations.

I don't want to feud with the Niagara News, because we are on the same team to serve Niagara College. Further co-operation could only be an asset to this college. I hope in the future SAC could help us finance some new speakers so broadcasts could be heard better. I hope that people realize that we are students, too. We are not getting paid $50,000 a year for our talents. Like any program we have people that don't try, but most of us give 100 per cent. In future, I would appreciate someone from your paper consulting one of us before such a careless error is made.

But for now the damage is done.

John Robertson
Public Relations Promotions
Campus Radio Niagara College

(Ed's note: It was a letter from a reader, not the Niagara News, which said there was "not even a two-minute period of silence" in the cafeteria at 11 a.m. on Nov. 11, 1988. The Niagara News was told in a college memorandum that there would be no "official" college observation of Remembrance Day.

Furthermore, the Niagara News has covered stories on the broadcasting program's successes. The Journalism-Print program, too, labors under constraints, doing its best to give regular, fair coverage to SAC, athletics, the college administration and almost 50 programs, not to mention special occasions such as the blood donor clinic and Remembrance Day.

After each edition, there may be a legion of stories and pictures which do not see the light of day because of exigencies of space and other considerations.)

As one reader wrote:
" 'Tis not in mortals to command success,
But we'll do more, Sempronius; we'll deserve it.

Another letter

Smoker speaks out

Dear Editor:

I am writing in regard to the front page article, Vol. 19, No. 5 Limited Ban on Smoking...I am a smoker, and yes, I'm angry.

There is no recognition of smokers' rights here as was originally a part of the planned policy and the result is a communistic approach in favor of the non-smoker. I fail to see the problem in having well ventilated, designated smoking areas. Most smokers today respect the non-smoker and are willing to reach a compromise, something that this new policy does not do.

This issue has become very distorted and entirely out of control. Are these people who are working towards a cleaner environment, focusing as much or any attention on factory emissions, automobile emissions or the toxic waste site aimed just above us in West Lincoln? How many of these smoking abolutionists are fighting these and other potential health hazards as vehemently? Few, I suppose.

Please don't tell me you are concerned about my health; I won't believe you, and please, if it's a matter of my cashing in on health benefits while lying in the hospital dying of lung cancer, then I ask how far are you going to go in controlling my life? Are we going to be told what we can eat, in order to avoid other health hazards that will dip into health insurance funds? If so, I have an idea: as each person enters the cafeteria, he/she could be weighed and given a cholesterol level test. If obesity is feared or a high cholesterol level a problem, then he/she is told what to have for lunch, or possibly, in light of the new smoking policy we could ban all "junk" food and demand all people, while on campus, only eat yogurt, fruit alfalfa sprouts and liver, oh yes and whole wheat bread for fibre. (Kind of an anti-french fry frenzy!). Sounds silly doesn't it? Now read the smoking policy again.

Sincerely,
Elaine Adamson
Fashion Arts

Red Cross shows gratitude

Dear Editor:

On behalf of the Welland Branch Canadian Red Cross Society, I would like to thank you for the excellent coverage and publicity for the annual blood clinic on Nov. 28.

The write-ups were excellent and the time and effort spent are most appreciated. We had a large turnout of donors, due to your publicity, and I can assure you, the shortage of blood was alleviated by your co-operation.

Sincere thanks and all good wishes for the holiday season.

Beatrice Kerr
President
Canadian Red Cross Society
Welland

More kudos for News

I would like to thank all of the Law and Security students who worked so hard to publicize the Blood Donor Clinic. First of all, the Corpsuckle Cuties — Greg Brickell, Dave Gough, and Dan McGarry, and Dracula, Maureen Moore, — deserve a round of applause for doing such a terrific job. Their make-up was expertly applied by Ann Hannigan and Kathy Dickson. The publicity team of LASA's Section 3 did quick work of distributing flyers to more than 1000 cars in the parking lots. And the Niagara News, in particular Fran Yanor, are all to be congratulated for its excellent coverage of the clinic and the picture of Dracula and the cuties. It would not have been successful without your help.

Jan Potton

Classifieds

APARTMENT FOR RENT Wanted by Dec/88 or Jan. 1/89. One or two female students to share fully furnished basement apt. in private home. Apt. includes fridge and stove, private entrance, private bathroom with shower, bar, color TV, stereo. Parking available, telephone installed, washer and dryer supplied. First and last required $200 - $225 per month.

Call Glenn or Nancy at 735-4055 or apply at 568 Fitch St. (corner of Fitch and South Pelham), Welland.

WANTED — Red Cross memorabilia for a museum being established in Welland. Receipts will be given for artifacts and donors will be given credit in any display in which the article is used. Contact: Gene Maltais, S210.

ECE marks anniversary

Niagara College's Early Childhood Education Centre is holding an Open House next month to celebrate its 20th anniversary.

The anniversary celebration from Jan. 9 to 12 will start with a ribbon- cutting at the centre by Margaret Hamilton, former program co-ordinator.

Open House is from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. every day, except Tuesday when the centre will be open until 7:30 p.m.

A special 20-year book is being compiled and the children will be doing some baking for the visitors.

Page 3

'Tis the season to be...rotten. One of these bears is no longer there — someone stole it from the fashion arts department last week disappointing the faculty and students. But the biggest disappointment is for that child on Christmas morning — now deprived of her Christmas teddy bear. Dianne Balint, left, and Leann Hines, right, both first-year fashion students, are the organizers of the event. The bears were dropped off at the Seaway Mall on Friday to a representative for the Community Christmas Toys. Nine of the bears came from the Student Administrative Council.

Photo by Anne Hofsink

Pint recipients win in Corpsuckle Cup

The Ambulance and Emergency Care program has won another victory in the 1988 Corpsuckle Cup competition, but the big winner will be the recipients of the 247 pints of blood gathered on Nov. 25 at Niagara's blood donor clinic.

The ambulance program retained the Corpsuckle Cup by achieving a 69.8 per cent donation rate with a total of 37 donors. The program has won the cup seven years running.

The Law and Security Administration program's first and second-year classes took second and third places, respectively, the first year with 49 donors and 37.7 per cent, and the second year with 18 donors and 21.2 per cent.

Although the clinic fell short of last year's efforts, the Red Cross considered the event a success because it met its quota.

75 FIRSTS

This year's blood clinic saw 75 first-time donors turn out to help the Welland Red Cross build up its blood reserves in time for Christmas; however, the Red Cross reports that the number of donors is falling off everywhere.

Marjory Frith, Red Cross staff member, said there was a lot of enthusiasm over the cup, but that "AIDS is having an effect" on the amount of blood the Red Cross has been gathering.

"We depend on these clinics to supply the increased demand for blood during Christmas." The need for blood rises as much as 25 per cent.

Peter Ruggiero, vice-president of external affairs of the Student Administrative Council, said he had hoped the clinic would get 400 pints. SAC was heavily involved in organizing and promoting the only blood clinic scheduled at Niagara this year.

GOOD JOB

Eugene Maltais, political science teacher and founder of the Corpsuckle Cup, said the promoters and organizers "did an extremely good job with this year's competition."

"Anybody who says that young people are irresponsible, uncaring and tuned-out should have been here today."

Mr. Maltais received an award marking his 35th donation.

Steps were taken before the clinic to try to alleviate the past problem of long line-ups. Mrs. Frith said this blood drive was "much better than last year."

The Corpsuckle Cup will be presented to the Ambulance and Emergency Care program some time in December.

Botswana bursaries secretary tours Niagara

By GAIL ATKINSON
Staff Writer

There were hellos all around in Setswana, the language of Botswana, when Festina Bakwena visited the seven journalism-print students from her country to discuss their lives and learning at Niagara College.

With a "Dumela rra" and a "Dumela mma," she greeted them Monday morning to gain personal insight about their progress.

Mrs. Bakwena is the bursaries secretary responsible for post-secondary training for the entire economy of Botswana.

She arrived in Canada from Botswana students a week ago at the invitation of the World University Service of Canada.

She is touring colleges and universities across Canada to meet Botswana students, and their faculty, and tour facilities in anticipation of introducing curriculums in her country or sponsoring future students in Canadian programs.

Ralph Hazleton, WUSC field placement officer to Botswana, and Mrs. Bakwena were escorted at Niagara by International Student Adviser Hugo Bessems. They had meetings with journalism co-ordinator Austin Jelbert and instructor Barbara Blue before continuing on their hectic schedule of visiting more colleges than there are days remaining before her return to Gaborone, capital of Botswana.

Mrs. Bakwena said she was here "mainly to have the chance to visit with all the students and their professors."

"Obviously there is a great deal of communication between WUSC and us," she said. " They understand what we need."

Niagara was chosen as placement for the seven students for its fine reputation and hands-on training, Mr. Hazleton said.

There are about 50 students across Canada from Botswana and, on average, they do extremely well, he said. "For example, of 250 engineering students at Ryerson last year, among the top three was a Botswana woman — the first time in the history of Ryerson that a girl made that achievement."

WUSC acts as the agent, or implementing agency, for the sponsorship program of foreign countries looking for educational avenues not available in their own countries.

"We are hired to place students in Canada, monitor their development and overall generally administer," Mr. Hazleton said. "We have field offices where we interview and select the students, then find the placements."

WUSC, the biggest non-governmental organization of its kind, has 19 field offices abroad to meet the needs of foreign education ministries.

Mr. Hazleton spent five of the last seven years in Botswana and said he has experienced more culture shock since returning to Canada to work from the Ottawa office than he ever did in Botswana.

"It's easier for the kids coming to a new country after in-depth interviews, discussions, to see what they're like and which direction they want to go in. Orientation makes it easier for them in new communities. Mrs. Bakwena's visit is much like an orientation visit — now when she thinks of Niagara College, she can actually visualize...she'll know."

Feedback on individual and collective progress was positive, the students said after their discussion with Mrs. Bakwena. They talked about workloads, personal observations, and problems, and financial stability.

Mrs. Bakwena had personal, motivational talks with each student.

"On the condition we do well here, we may go on to university," Golekanye Molapisi said afterwards.

Mr. Bessems termed it "a very positive visit."

"They are here so they have an idea of what Niagara College can offer for future training possibilities, and just to see how school is going for the students."

Council vote approaching

Seven members of the College Council are vying for four positions on the executive. Voting will be on Tuesday.

The candidates are:

Chairman, Brian Green, English teacher; Tom Fraser, chemistry and math teacher;

Vice-chairman, Tony Albano, mathematics and computer teacher; and Ray Matthews, English teacher;

Membership chairman, Janet Forfar, information officer; and Diane Mercer, secretary to the chemical, computer, electrical and electronics department.

Secretary, Frank Adamson, co-ordinator of ambulance and emergency care.

Only faculty and support staff ran for positions, while administration and student members did not.

"It is disappointing that students and administration are not interested in being on the executive," Mr. Adamson said.

JACQUELINE ROBARTS

Jackie's best wishes

As 1988 draws to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the employees for doing a very good job during this difficult year for the College. I hope that you have derived a sence of accomplishment in your work and now can look forward to the Christmas season with all the joy and happiness it brings to you and your friends.

I know that all our students will be looking forward to a well-deserved rest and change over the Christmas holidays. Go for it!

My sincere best wishes to all of our Staff and Students for the Merriest Christmas and the Happiest New Year.

Jacqueline P. Robarts,
President.

We're sorry

The Niagara News regrets any embarrassment caused to students pictured in the Nov. 25 edition (Vol.19, No. 5) in the photo caption on pictures showing them playing cards and video games. The pictures were NOT taken at 11 a.m. on Remembrance Day, Nov. 11, 1988, as the caption implies. There was a misunderstanding by the photographer as to the precise time at which the photos were to be taken.

We were happy to hear that not only the Versa Foods staff but most students in the cafeteria observed the solemnity of the moment.

The Editors

Editorials

College Council blues

Pitiable involvement

An assemblage which makes the president a lot more accountable has recently met for the first time — but most people have scarcely noticed. Student involvement is especially pitiable.

What gives?

With a very large mandate to advise the president on all significant college issues and to promote communication and consultation within the college community, the College Council had its first meeting Nov. 8.

Attendance was a joke in the dimly lit Hamilton Room, where about 30 of 52 members showed. Students hold 13 seats on the council; yet there were only four present. At the last count, five student seats have not even been filled.

One reason for poor attendance is lousy marketing. Interdepartmental memos and a few select stories in the Niagara News just don't cut it for spreading the word. Newspaper advertising, big posters, and blurbs on CRNC would help.

Do you want a say on parking? Do you want a say on the timetable structure of the college day? Or how about a student residence? They are the issues that matter to Niagara College students; they should know these issues are being discussed — and are on the tentative agenda of this Tuesday's meeting.

Eric Beyer

School just a 'teaser'

New year holds real test

Season's greetings, fellow funding units!

Yes, we've made it past head-count day when all 3275 of us were at our most valuable point in the college system dollar-wise, simultaneously at our most vulnerable point in our chosen career curriculums. The easy stuff is over. The hectic pre-holiday rush through assignments, exams, and assessment is the teaser for the real stuff in the new year and, even with our determined capabilities, is the dedicated perseverance worth it?

There are no guarantees. Our success at school might get a foot in the door — that's why we're here. But we can gain more than an acedemic/practical education by studying the ways of the world through the administration of finance — or lack of it — by observing the importance of student acquisition and retention. Without us there is no college — with us, is there enough of one?

The college is here to train students with marketable skills. Output alone does not imply security in anyone's employment. Financial input, from whatever source, does.

So rest easy this holiday, reflect on the past year, but keep your head for your next term and your future. It counts.

Gail Atkinson

Have a safe and merry Christmas

Bullpit

Predictions shock newsroom

Eds' Note: Here with a Christmas fillip from four insubordinate journalism students:

One late night, in a cloud of pshychic phenomena Niagara News reporters were inbued with visionary glimpses into the future. These are the startling results of that mystical experience.

English teacher **Brian Green** will win the Pulitzer Prize for his most brilliant work yet. Unfortunately, the award will be revoked when it is discovered that his much-glorified book was actually a plagiarized compilation of student essays he graded throughout the year.

After the resounding success of the 1988/89 year of the Niagara News, **Barbara Blue** and **Austin Jelbert** will retire amid fanfare and fame. Grateful for their stupendous years of service, the college will attach $100,000 bonus to their paycheques which they immediately divide up and distrib ute among their talented proteges.

Hans van der Slagt, closet smoker, is discovered violating the new smoking policy and is forced to reprimand himself sternly for the breach. A new properly ventilated designated area is created in his office a short time later when smoke-cessation classes fail to cure him of his addiction.

SAC president **Randy "the Macho Man" Conlon** will win the World Jello Wrestling Federation Championship (WJWFC). He later abdicates when the federation rules against co-ed wrestling, "All those years of practice shot to hell! I'm sooooo disappointed."

Glaswegian Gladiator **Ken Cosgrove** will use his budget money for a counterfeiting machine to improve the finances of the college. His scheme backfires when supply falls short of demand. Instead of continuing his career, he will become a recluse in a bar(rrrh)ren wasteland where he will be verbally misunderstood no more.

The college's indecision regarding the future of the St. Catharines campus is silenced in the torrential downpour of 1989 as the St. Catharines campus is swept into the icy waters of the old Welland Canal, much to the delight of neighborhood children who use the floating structure for Tom Sawyer adventures.

A shroud of steroid suspician will settle on the athletic department as **Peter Rylander** skins Arnold Palmer and claims every long drive contest in the PGA. Suspicions will be eliminated when blood testing confirms his super-human strength is the result of a Versa Food diet.

Santa reveals all

Mrs. Claus made her husband's belt to "hold up" his stomach, Santa confided in an interview last week, in response to one of the questions posed by the children from the Early Childhood Education Centre.

Santa was contacted at the Pen Centre after the children put together a list of queries for him. Despite being a little pressed for time, his busy season and all, he merrily consented to clear up some doubts for his adoring fans.

No, he doesn't use remote control to visit apartments with no chimneys. "I can put myself into any shape. Big or small, a keyhole or a mousehole, Santa gets in. The same as my toy sack," he said; "it's all magic."

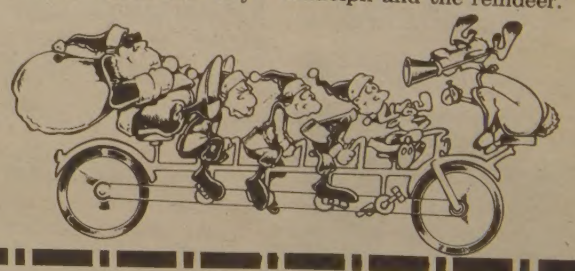
The same as Mrs. Claus' cookies; they're magical, too. "She tells the elves what she wants and they make them." "Smiling all the time." St. Nick said she has "sky blue eyes....and never grows old."

Who makes the toys? "Why, the elves do. They love to....if they didn't have toys to make for all the boys and girls, they would die 'cause they would have nothing to live for, and so would Santa," he replied misty-eyed. "Santa has a really big toy shop."

The elves built his castle of ice at the North Pole after finding him in "an old village" in Alaska. "They put magic on me and turned me into Santa," he said, reminiscing.

An avid camper, Santa also enjoys travelling — fortunate considering the flight time he puts in. What does the little woman do while he's off delivering toys to all the good little girls and boys?

"The same as any other woman. She awaits anxiously to see if I'm caught in a storm...with the elves until Santa gets back with Rudolph and the reindeer."



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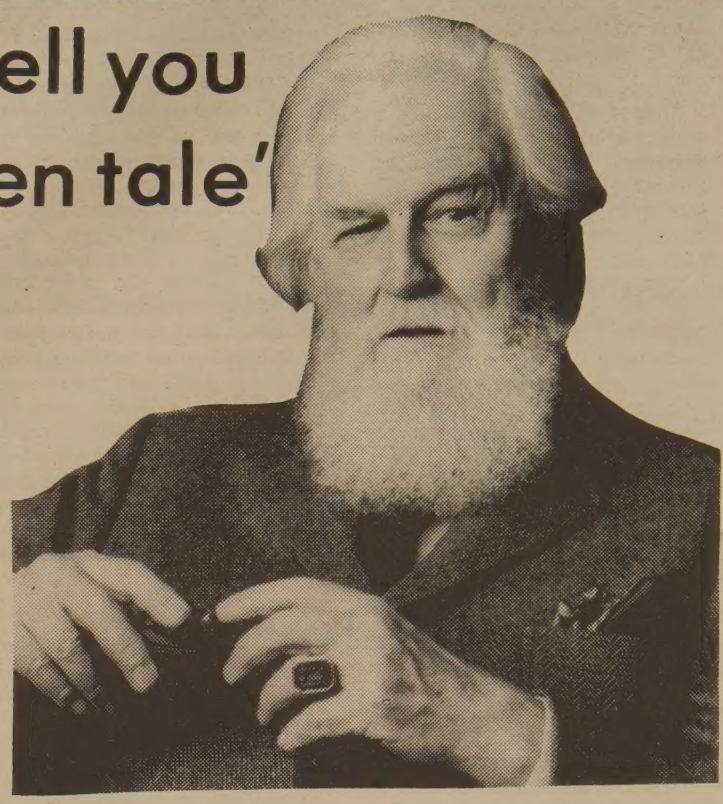
FOCUS *on Canadian writers*

By BERNIE PUCHALSKI
Staff Writer

'I will tell you a golden tale'



ROBERTSON DAVIES

A single white chair, a lectern, and rickety black card table holding a glass water tumbler and a black and chrome water pitcher set the stage. Alone, in front of a silent, mainly female, throng of about 150 people stood a somewhat eccentric looking, ruddy-faced man with a long Moses-like beard and trim white hair.

Slowly he ambled his way across the stage relishing the silent anticipation of the crowd, clutching a plain-looking black book with a solitary red circle emblazoned on its cover. With dramatic flair he broke the silence by pouring himself a glass of water, his actions seemingly saying to the audience to relax and enjoy.

He was nattily attired in a green suit with a gold and maroon handkerchief inserted in his breast pocket, but an image of casualness was suggested by the scuffed brown shoes which peeked out from under neatly pressed trousers.

Gesturing and pointing to the audience, half-moon spectacles perched precariously on his nose, renowned Canadian author Robertson Davies read from his latest book on Nov. 23 at the St. Catharines Centennial Library. Reading with a ranging, sometimes enraged voice, he changed genders and personalities assuming the voices and mannerisms of the characters in his book. The audience was treated not merely to a book reading but also to a one-man tour-de-force play done beautifully without props or supporting cast.

The 35-minute reading from the book The Lyre of Orpheus was greeted with loud and appreciative applause by the obviously entertained audience. After acknowledging the cheers, Mr. Davies solicited questions from the crowd and further enthralled the audience with interesting and provocative answers.

He doesn't tire of reading books to audiences, he told a questioner, but does get tired of the long hours spent travelling. He derives a great amount of pleasure "communicating immediately with an audience." Reading "encourages readers to read for themselves as if they were acting out the story."

"Reading is an essential part of writing," he said. Reading his books is a means of carrying on the traditions of ancient storytellers, whose motto was, "Give me a copper coin and I will tell you a golden tale."

Mr. Davies told a questioner he was indeed a disciplined writer who writes every day. He attributed this habit to his early training as a journalist. He said you have to get ready to write a story and, "You cannot wait for a great lightning to stike."

You don't give up and say, "I'm going to wait for a splendid inspiration" before sitting down at the typewriter. "That is the way novels don't get written," he said.

"Novel writing is like oil painting." Writing must give the appearance of life but ultimately comes from inside. Mr. Davies writes using his own experiences but "experience is not the wild stuff of adventure stories."

"It is the quality of what you do with the experience, not the experience." Going places and seeing things is unnecessary and "if you can write you should just sit right down and write."

In the audience was a writing teacher with his seven students, who asked how he could get his students to write. "You're in a very difficult position," Mr. Davies answered. Out of the seven there might be one who can write.

Expecting all students to obtain a passing grade in all subjects is an example of the "lunatic democracy" of the educational system. "The educational system demands you make seven write, but you can't, and they will hate you."

"I don't wish to be mean or miserable to your students" but writing is an art, Mr. Davies said. Just because they go to school doesn't mean people can create art. You don't expect people to be able to sing or paint if they don't have the talent.

On reading books, Mr. Davies said "It is the readers who complete the novel by their own personal experience." You "can't do it by speed reading" and people who try "aren't really reading because they enjoy it, but because they want to have read it."

"You must read it at the pace the author could read it to you."

The reader plays an important part in reading and "you must be a kind of theatre repertory in yourself." That is the way to get the real juice out of the book.

He compared people who read books too quickly to people who don't have the time to listen to all of Beethoven's Seventh Symphony, so they turn the speed up.

None of Mr. Davies' books have been made into movies though "I make no move to resist it. My books do not immediately appeal to the kind of people who make films." Also American film makers are reluctant to produce films with a Canadian flavor.

His book, Fifth Business, was considered for a movie but wasn't made because the most important woman's part in the book is one who is horribly ugly. And no movie actress would want to play an ugly woman. "I suggested they get a man to play the part."

"They are stuck in the mud," Mr. Davies said of film makers. "Film people are immensely conservative," and although television people are not really adventurous they are more adventurous than film people. "I doubt if I will live to see a film of mine," he said.

No one character in his books is Robertson Davies. "All characters in my books are me. Where else would they come from?" He also disputed the idea that one can only write about one's own sex. "We're all double-sexed" and "women write well about men. This bunk that you can only write about the sex you are is only a bunch of propaganda."

"Canadians are just as literate and intelligient as anyone else," Mr. Davies said. Canadians understand what he is writing on and about his book The Lyre of Orpheus, he said. "I have evidence in files that lots of Canadians have read this book and understood. Books don't have to be written down to Canadian readers."

"My books are full of things that are not going to be caught by every reader." It is his way of sharing a private joke with his readers. "The book which lies immediately wide open to every reader — I find it dull."

Mr. Davies was asked whether he was disappointed at not winning the Booker prize when he was nominated for it a couple of years ago. "Prizes are very pleasant but they don't make you any better. You just have to not allow those things in your mind because you will get utterly miserable."

He said he does not derive any pride from awards and concluded the questions — and the lecture — by holding out his arms and saying "You are my prize."

Writing has charm but it's not a living

The Canadian magazine industry is "hard to characterize" but its current state is a lot better than 15 years ago when it seemed about to vanish, Robert Fulford, former editor or Saturday Night, said.

In a telephone interview with the Niagara News last week, he said there are a lot more magazines than there were when he started. The range of possibilities is much greater but "the fact that there is much more variety may not be producing great writing."

Discussing the magazine industry in Canada, Mr. Fulford, journalist, author and host of TVO's Realities, said there are not enough serious magazines although there are several literary magazines with very small circulations.

"We lack a generally circulated high quality magazine of literature and the arts."

In 1968 Mr. Fulford became editor of Saturday Night and he remained in the position until 1987 when he resigned after Conrad Black bought the magazine. During his tenure as editor, the magazine was "a magazine about Canadian politics, literature, culture, business, and society aimed at the leadership group in the country."

People interested in a career in magazine writing in Canada should reconsider their goals. "Don't even think you will make a living by freelance magazine writing," Mr. Fulford said. "Don't even put it on your list of possibilities. Freelance magazine writing has a great charm but it's not a living." Writers should learn one or two subjects really well so that "you don't degenerate into a hack who skims the surface of 100 different subjects." You should learn more about the specific subject than most people do, he said.

His journalism background has helped him in his writings. "One terrific thing was that I did a lot of book reviews" and "I had to think a lot of what makes a book good or bad." Magazines writing is an ideal way to learn how to write books because "a magazine article is a short book."

He remembered a colleague who had a sign on his desk which read "You're not writing a long feature story, you're writing a short book."

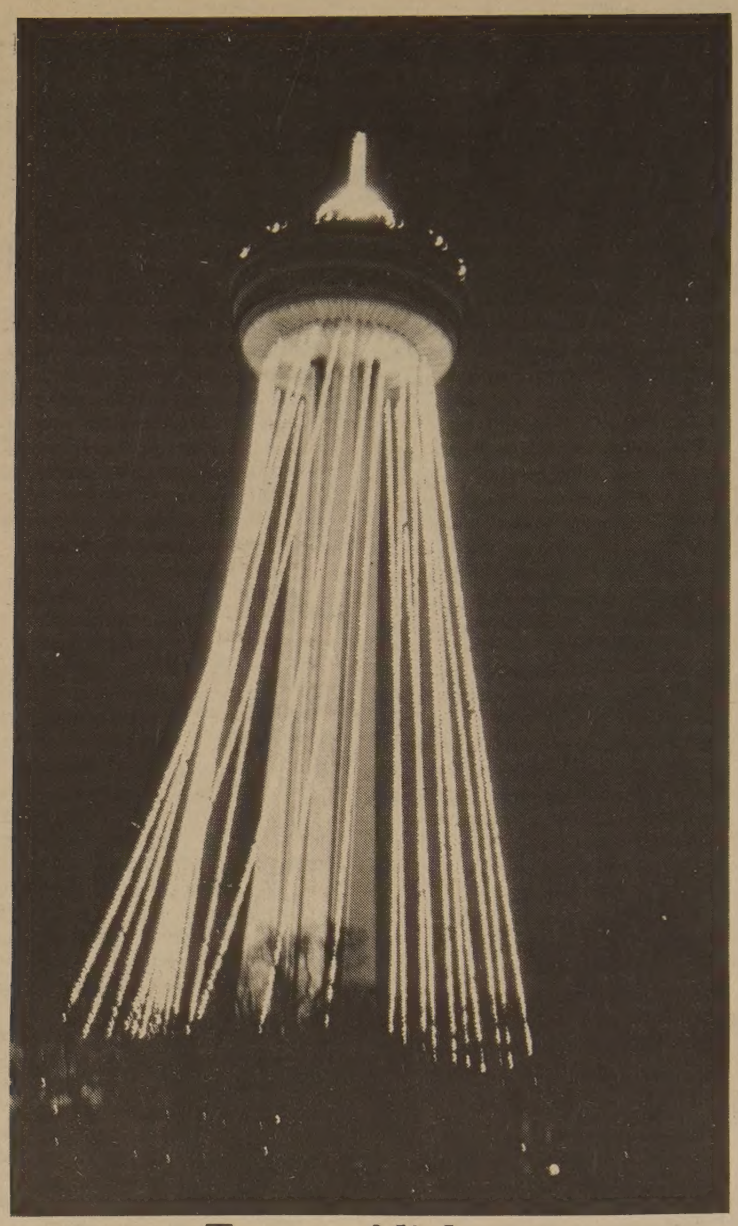
It's "absolute nonsense" to say Canadians are as literate and intellectual as people from other countries. The French, the British and West Germans are "several notches above us." "We can't claim for a minute that we're as literate as the three countries." About Americans he said, "They may well be below us."

Mr. Fulford's favorite authors are Margaret Atwood and Robertson Davies, "two writers whose books I most eagerly pick up." Magazines writers whom he particularily likes include David McFarlane and Ron Graham.

Robert Fulford's years in the magazine industry make him an ideal spokesman for the industry in Canada. His latest book, Best Seat In The House, has become a national bestseller and he is recognized as one of the premier authorities on the media in Canada.

On the future of magazine writing in Canada, he believes " there is a great deal of talent of which some is misdirected."

ROBERT FULFORD



Tower of lights

The Skylon Tower's attractive decor is one of many at the annual Festival of lights on River Road in Niagara Falls. Thousands of tiny light bulbs attached to the tower can be seen for miles around. People come fro all over southern Ontario and western New York to capture the intricate lighting displays in their multi colored splendor. The festival runs from December until the end of February.

Photo by Theresa Boudreau

Job market is 'real competition'

Second-year Niagara College marketing students returned from the Ontario Colleges Marketing Competition without any awards but in the "real competition" students do well.

"The real competition is in employment and our students do very well in this competition," Lawrence Cote, co-ordinator of the marketing program, said. He said finding employment is the "real evaluation."

Niagara College is at a disadvantage in the competition because all of third-year marketing students are on co-op. Second-year students with only two months of marketing must compete with third-year students from other colleges, Dave Taylor, marketing instructor, said.

Niagara failed to place in the top three in any of the eight events on Nov. 18 and 19. Mr. Taylor said the competition "is a very positive experience if you don't look at the hardware (trophies) as positive." He said 17 colleges participated and it was the biggest turnout yet. Other colleges go to comepetition with the specific goal to win trophies — and maybe Niagara has to re-evaluate its goals, Mr. Taylor said.

Mr. Taylor said Niagara has been going to the competition for the past five or six years and before co-op was introduced it did well. He said if the competition was in March, after the third-year students had returned from co-op, "it would be a different story."

The experience of going to the event is used by the marketing program to bond people together in the program and make it more of a group focus. Mr. Cote said it was a good experience for the students socially and in business. Mr. Taylor said the competition is useful in that the students get a better understanding of the courses they are taking and the competition they will face in the job market.

NOT SOUR GRAPES

Mr. Taylor said it is not sour grapes but it is "hard to show somebody how to sell a product in a week." He said there are companies which do recruiting at the competiton but said the event is not a fair indication of the skills of Niagara students.

The re-evaluation of allowing students to continue to go to the event is something Niagara must do something about, Mr. Taylor said. Mr. Cote said the poor showings "will not affect the reputation of the program because it's not the program being tested, but the students."

Continuing Education draw raises $1,000 for centre

Gail Wickenden, a secretary in Hennepen Hall, won a case of champagne in the Continuing Education draw to help Niagara's new tourism centre. The Calendar Department of Continuing Education organized the draw and raised $1,000.

The case of champagne, worth more than $100, was donated by John Swan, president of Hillebrand Estates Winery in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

idea." Candace Paris, manager continuing education services, said. "We have never done it before."

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"Allo. My name iz Pierre Lechef and I'ave lost ze recipe for ze Christmas turkey! Zo, I'ave asked Fran Rogers' zecond-grade class from ze Holy Name School in Welland to 'elp me find a nouveau recipe. Zis is what zey said."

My turkey recipe

DANIELLA CASASANTA

One day I went to the store and I brought a turkey. first I will put the turkey in the pot to cook. then I will stuff it. I will get my hamburg meat to stuff it. Then I will make it cook for a half an hour. Then I will put some oil. Then I will put some peppers.

ERICA BENDZIK

I would go to the store and get the most juiciest and Fattest Turkey. Then I would take it home. I would cut it on the bottom and cook it for an hour. When it is done I will stuff it with 2 loves of bread and rip it up in little pieces. Add 2 eggs and sterr it with your hands and add milk so it is moist. Let it cook for an other hour. keep in oven over night. In the morning take the stuffing out and put it in a large ball. I will serve it with Potatoes and cream corn plus salad and gravy.

NATASHA ANNETT

Go to the store buy a fat turkey bring it home. Put it in the sink and wash it then put it in the oven for a hour then take it out of the oven then stuff it with bread and mushrooms then you can pour gravy on it then you can cook it for ten minutes then take it out of the oven then you can serve it with cranberry sauce Put it on a plate and serve it.

JOHN MICHAEL BONACCI

I am going to the store and buy a juicy turkey because it's for Christmas and it might take a half an hour for The turkey. Now I am going to kill you and then I will stuff you but first I am going to take a gun and shoot you. I am going to do this to you. I am going to stuff you with vegetbles and tomatoes and some beans.

ALLISON PYTLAK

First I need a turkey. Then I will stuff it. I will put it in the oven before I go to bed. I well let cook all night and morning. I will take it out of the oven about 1:00 p.m. Then I will serve it.

MICHAEL KEENAN

One day I went to the Store to get a turkey. I stuffed it up with stuffing. Then we put in in the oven for an hour. Then it is done. Then my mom makes the salad. Then my Dad makes the cranberries. Then if we forgot something my Dad goes to the corner Store.

AMBER KEHRBERG

I went to the store to get a big turkey for Christmas dinner but I was in charge of cooking the turkey. Well first I would take the feathers off and then I would get a pot and put it in the oven and I would cook it for a hour and when it's done I will serve it and then we will all have Christmas.

KRYSTAL ANDRUSYK

First I would go to The store and buy a big big Juiciest Turkey. I would put it in the Big Big pot. I would cook it and I would eat it. I would go to The store and buy another one and I would cook that other one and eat it happily ever after.

GIULIO BEVACQUA

First you get a fat Turkey and take all his feathers off. And cut his head off. Then get a pot and put it in the pot. and pour on some salt. Stuff it with clothes (to dress the turkey). Cook for a half an hour.

The Gift of Life: Blood as important now as in ancient civilizations

By TERRY MOORE
Staff Writer

During the Christmas season, people talk for weeks about gifts. There is one important gift which can be given any time of the year — the Gift of Life, Blood. Blood is life, pass it on.

Ancient Egyptians bathed in it to restore their energy and to heal greying hair and baldness. The ancient Romans drank it to make them more courageous. George Washington lost too much of it, and the Aztecs were one of the many cultures who sacrificed for it.

The history, folklore, and religion of every people assigns a unique importance to blood. It is bad and good; feared and revered. Blood has often been associated with rebirth and regeneration.

The Greek God, Dionysus, or Bacchus to the Romans, symbolized the motion of blood through the human body. As god of the vine, he represented the sap of life and the miraculous renewal of nature. Wine was not only a bountiful product of Dionysus, but also a great sacriment to him. Wine represented his blood, and drinking it was seen to elevate mortal man — making him god-like. Dionysian rites went beyond homage to a god — it meant sharing his divinity through drinking blood-colored wine.

Besides bathing in blood to restore youth and cure balding, the ancient Egyptians favored blood as a treatment for lunacy, leprosy, palsy, and elephantiasis, a lymphatic disorder causing swollen limbs.

Blood is life

Ancient Roman gladiators drank the blood of their fallen opponents to imbue them with courage, and spectators joined in the partaking.

While an English belief held that land soiled by human blood was cured and made barren, some American Indian tribes sacrificed a youth in the spring to ensure plentiful crops; blood was sprinkled over the seeds.

While in parts of Africa, Asia, and South America, animals are sacrificed to increase the fertility of their plants and to appease their gods, the Aztecs of Mexico sacrificed humans to their gods.

In parts of Africa, particularly in the areas of the Bantu people, it is believed that blood taken cannot be restored; weakness and blindness result from its withdraw. They believed witchcraft may be transmissible by blood transfusions and the needle piercing the skin is an act of aggression resulting in disease and sickness; furthermore, they believe white men take blood to ensure dominance over black men

A deeply held and widely proclaimed superstition in many parts of the world holds that blood is an inviolable property; to take it away is sacriligious.

Throughout South America, the most popular method of driving out a bad spirit was by "venesection" — the surgical opening of a vein for withdrawal of blood — in the belief the demons escaped with the blood.

Similarly, doctors from the anciet Egyptians to the 19th century practised bloodletting — the deliberate removal of blood to remove pain. When George Washington's throat was swollen tightly by the excess fluids of a throat infection, his physician drew so much blood from him that he was drained of all strength to fight the infection, but it may have been fatal anyway.

Although bloodletting has not been used since the mid 19th century, Soviet doctors reportedly applied leeches to Joseph Stalin in a futile effort as he lay dying from a stroke in 1953.

Centuries ago, blood was a favorite remedy for lunacy, palsy, and it was prescribed for the rejuvenation of the old.

Pass it on

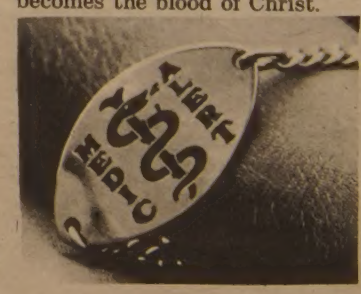
After all known medical remedies failed Pope Innocent VIII in 1492, his doctors gave him the blood from three boys to drink. All of them died soon after. Other doctors have been equally unsuccessful with human-animal transfusions. In the pioneering days of the practice, the blood of lambs and dogs was used. It so often ended in death that the transfusions were banned and outlawed.

Bloodletting and surgery, considered forms of manual labor, were not considered worthy of gentlemen. By the 11th century, the custom of bloodletting invented the sub-professional class of the barber-surgeon.

Under eccleiasstic law, monks in the Middle Ages had to be frequently bled. Because the barber regularly cut the monks' hair (the act of which signified dedication to God) barbers began bloodletting.

Since it was considered most effective during April, May and September, barbers placed white, blood-stained cloth outside their doors; hence the modern white and red spiral striped barber poles.

Mentioned more than 500 times in the Bible, blood takes part in two of the most significant occurrences in the Bible — Passover and the Last Supper. Some believe in the transubstantiation of wine in Communion, that it becomes the blood of Christ.



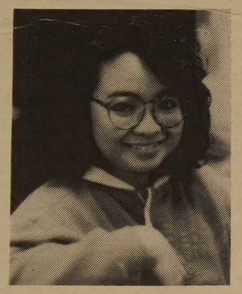
International students share Christmas traditions

Festive season in Hong Kong brings red pockets of riches

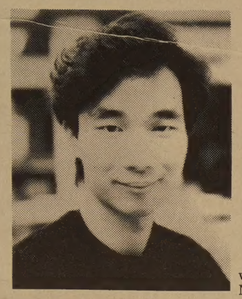
By ANNE HOFSINK
Staff Writer

Crowds of people stand in cordoned off streets and look at the beautiful light decorations on highrises in downtown Hong Kong on Christmas Eve. Joyce Tang and Wilson Lo have been among them.

"Kids go crazy when Christmas comes," Joyce, a first-year student, said. Her parents, however, and many others, do not celebrate Christmas. Wilson, in his third year, and his family go to a restaurant for Christmas Day where they dine on a special Christmas buffet, usually set up by many Hong Kong eateries.



JOYCE TANG



WILSON LO

新年道步!

Joyce said her family does not decorate their home but Wilson's family puts up an artificial tree, some lights and some stockings. The stores put up lights and it is "really, really beautiful," Joyce said. Snapshots taken by Wilson show the animated wonder of the outlined buildings lit with colors, candles, bells and Christmas greetings.

Unlike Canadians who rise early, the people of Hong Kong sleep 'til noon on Christmas Day; then they shop or go to a party, Joyce said.

In Wilson's home, stockings are hung at the end of the children's beds to be filled with gifts after the children fall asleep.

"In Hong Kong, New Years is bigger than Christmas but is not celebrated January 1, it comes at a different time each year — this year it comes in February," Wilson said.

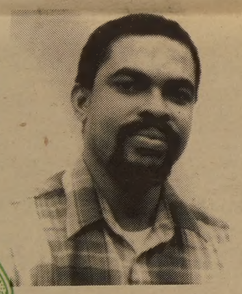
On New Year's Eve gifts of red pockets filled with money are given by married couples to children until they grow up and marry. Wilson said there is usually $5 Hong Kong in each pocket. Joyce has received red pockets with a total of $500 Hong Kong but said it was not uncommon to have red pockets adding up to $1,000 Hong Kong.

New Years in Hong Kong is similar to Christmas in Canada — a family occasion celebrated together with love, said Wilson and Joyce.

Grenadian Santa more legendary

By SHELLEY MOORE
Staff Writer

Santa Claus, Christmas trees, holly, Christmas carols and even snow are a part of Christmas in Grenada, West Indies. However, not as many people have their houses lit up on the outside or inside with strings of lights.



PATRICK FINLAY

"Christmas is a Christian practice," Patrick Finlay, 38, said, and is, therefore, celebrated in basically the same manner in any country where the Christian faith is followed. The only way in which Christmas in Grenada differs from that of Canada is that it is more of a religious and family-oriented time and is not so commercialized.

Santa Claus is a part of Christmas in Grenada but is not seen in the malls or on the streets asking children what they want from him. He is still thought of as a legend, someone who finds a way into homes in the middle of the night leaving gifts and candy for children on Christmas Eve.

Wreaths made of holly are readily seen in Grenada, but mistletoe, and kissing under it, is something known only in song, never seen.

Carols and caroling are fairly common in the streets of Grenada before Christmas. Dec. 23 and 24 bring most of the people into the bigger cities and towns to do their shopping and to eat sweets like ice cream cones and candy floss. "Starlights," (firecrackers) are a big part of the festivities.

Cotton under Santa's sleigh on the mantle and under the tree imitates snow Patrick said. Since Christmas cards usually have snow shown on them it's associated with the season even though there is none in Grenada.

Patrick's first Christmas in Canada brought disbelief that there were "so many lights!" They are so expensive in Grenada, people cannot afford to buy them so the government sets up Christmas trees with lights and the power company taps the powerlines without charge.

Dinner on Christmas Day in Grenada consists of ham or roast beef and chow-chow, from the paw-paw, which is like cranberry sauce.

Christmas in Grenada is not unlike Christmas in Canada, but unlike Canadians who have plenty of snow, Grenadians can only dream about a white Christmas.

Chinese welcomed into Canadian home

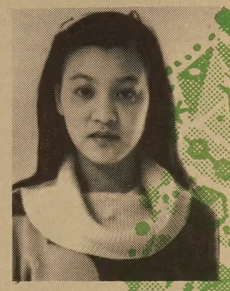
By THERESA BOUDREAU
Staff Writer

A 26-year-old Chinese woman, who arrived at Niagara College Nov. 29, will be spending the Christmas holiday in Welland.

Yu Yuan, of Wuhan, China, is at the college for two months studying administration for adult education.

"We don't have Christmas day in China," Miss Yuan said.

But, they do celebrate the New Year called the Spring Festival held at the end of January or beginning of February depending on their calendar that year.



YU YUAN

聖誕快樂

On the eve of Spring Festival, family members gather for a big dinner. "Everyone dresses modern." In the evening, television broadcasts a five-hour program. The program consists of people dancing, singing, creating magic, and comics.

"The members of the family sit around the television eating peanuts and candy."

Miss Yuan said some people in China exchange gifts for their Spring Holiday, but it is a custom for the parents to give their children money.

For this Christmas, "I am invited to a professor's home and I will celebrate with them. I am staying with a Canadian lady in Welland. I plan on making some dumplings for her on Christmas."

Evergreens in Antigua

By GAIL ATKINSON
Staff Writer

A crystal-clear aquamarine sea edged with white and gold granules of powder-soft sand and sun, lots of shining brilliant hot sun — this is a Caribbean Christmas.

Louis Daniel is a native Antiguan and he'll stay in cold, wet Welland this winter, far from his Caribbean Christmas. He lives with three students from Botswana, all are studying first-year journalism-print.

This Christmas will be the first away from his parents, four brothers, a sister, nieces and nephews who are all home in St. John's, Antigua.

LOUIS DANIEL

Louis describes Antiguan Christmas as "virtually the same as here." Festive lighting adorns downtowns, families put up trees and exchange gifts, attend midnight mass and celebrate the season over turkey and trimmings.

"One hotel had a Christmas tree brought by Air Canada over 20 feet tall, special delivery!" Most homes find artificial trees most practical — not many evergreens are found in the Caribbean.

Whether or not Louis will put up a tree is undecided. He and his housemates have no definite plans...except maybe a few long distance calls.

"Being here with the Batswana, we have become like family," Louis said. "It might be an experience to cook up a turkey. I wouldn't mind trying."

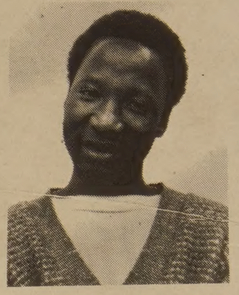
Louis has been chef du jour for his international household. The Batswana said they liked Louis' cooking but they'd never eaten turkey before. That could be a blessing in disguise if Louis doesn't get a turkey lesson soon!!

African has never seen snow, has never tasted turkey

By JULIE SLACK
Staff Writer

It is Dec. 25 in Gabarone, Africa. There is no snow on the ground, and no Christmas tree in the home. Children anxiously unwrap presents brought by Father Christmas. When dinner is served, there will not be a turkey on a platter, rather, a regular meal with beef.

Kgabo Modibedi, a first-year journalism-print student, enjoys Christmas in Africa; however, he realizes there are many differences between Canada's traditions and his usual traditions.



KGABO MODIBEDI

"During the year people work in towns; at Christmas we come home to the villages to spend Christmas with our family and relatives." In the village, there are different wards and during the Christmas season, the wards compete, singing Christian music.

The common link between the two countries is the celebrating of the birth of Jesus Christ. "Christmas is a holy day," Kgabo, 27, said. Church choirs get together to sing Christian songs celebrating Christ's birth.

While Canada's Christmas colors are red and green, Gabarone has no special colors. "There is not as much commercialization; it is more a holy day in Africa."

Families invite people and relatives to their house for dinner. Dinner is nothing special, just a regular dinner." Kgabo has never eaten turkey and turns his nose up at the thought. "I don't think I will try it. I don't think it would taste good."

He has not heard of putting a tree in the house to celebrate Christmas. The only type of decoration in houses in Botswana is something similar to metallic streamers, hung from the ceiling.

Santa Claus (Father Christmas in Gabarone) delivers Christmas presents to everyone on Christmas Eve. "Around Dec. 10 you start to see Father Christmas. You get more Christmas fever closer to Christmas." The shopping malls are busy and the store hours are extended.

Kgabo is looking forward to seeing the first snowfall, something he has never seen. "I will not miss spending Christmas with my family," he said. He thinks there will be a lot more excitement around Welland at Christmas.

The difference between Canadian and African celebrations are plentiful, but one common expression ties them together, "Merry Christmas."

It's a lucky season in Lebanon

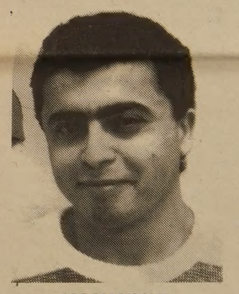
By ERIC BEYER
Staff Writer

In Lebanon, children who may have one or both parents in the army at Christmas are brought to an arena or gathered in their school, where Santa, bearing gifts, is brought from the sky in a helicopter. This event is financed and organized by the government.

"Christmas is a holiday for everybody," Ali Mansour said. Ali and Mohammad Oubayan, international students from Lebanon in third year electrical engineering technology, talked about their native Christmas.

"It is beautiful there, and everybody waits for this vacation," Ali said.

Lebanon, a former French colony, celebrates a western style Noel, with decorated wild pine trees, wrapped gifts, Papa Noel, and time off work. And, because it is winter, it is cold and rainy, around 5 degrees C.



ALI MANSOUR

MOHAMMAD ELCHOUF

But there are differences. During the festive season "everbody is gambling," Mohammad said — usually poker, to test the luck of the season.

A nativity scene is placed beside the Christmas tree, but the scene is modelled inside a mountain cave.

عيد الميلاد مجيد

"Some people celebrate Christmas and New Year's by shooting [firecrackers] in the air," Ali said.

Ali's home, geographically elevated, is at Mazboud Elchouf, where there is skiing in the winter. "Almost the most beautiful place in Lebanon," he said. Mohammad winters at Biblos, and spends summers in LaKlouk.

Entertainment

One hour good, one hour bad, Wilcox wows sell-out crowd

By GAIL ATKINSON
Staff Writer

DAVID WILCOX

David Wilcox wowed the first sell-out crowd in four years Nov. 23 in the cafeteria. He entertained the audience of 500-plus with a non-stop concert almost timed to a tee — it started and ended with a bang of rockin' rhythm and blues but middled out badly with a botch of very tired, very un-Wilcox boredom.

Doors opened at 8 p.m. and the anxious rock and blues queue finally made it in by 9 p.m. By 10 p.m., topsiders and penny loafers were sticking to the floor and Wilcox made his way to the stage surrounded by a protective entourage of his bass player, drummer and eight security bouncers.

It was up on tables and chairs for everyone to get a glimpse of him over the hundreds who planted themselves front rows centre in an undulating wave of rhythm of ecstatic hype.

"Some people call me a bad apple," he sang in bluesy-drawl, teasing his delighted fans.

Back went the eyeballs and he was gone on guitar. Wrenching fingers and contorted lips and those ever-white eyes rolled back to focus on ceiling scaffold or something or nothing and Wilcox was away in his element — he was his guitar, every lick, every yawl, every twang and tweek was him. And the crowd ate it up.

Back to the song, back on the stage, to students, alumni and fans of legal age and over, he thematically hollered, "Hey teacher!, if you happen to be here tonight...we got a message for you tonight...!"

"He's excellent!" Peggy Steel, Niagara grad '86, yelled over that first wild number while the crowd went wilder. Learning the lessons of edging up and into the enthusiastic mass of music-lovers was a cyclical pastime to see, hear, drink and dance.

With a "Good evening ladies and gentlemen...welcome to our party at Niagara College," Wilcox got into Ice Cream Man, a BB King-ish blues tune that really rolled everyone into particip-Action! He went into a wacky Woolly Bully and by the fifth tune, his white shirt was stuck to his skin, soaked. He was workin' and he was sweatin'! Yeah!

But then something very tired and very bad happened. Breakfast with the Clowns lightened up and slowed down the set and everybody else in the cafeteria. More and more bathroom breaks, more and more beer consumption were the order of an hour. Sure, Wilcox was tired. But there have to be better ways to re-energize than de-energizing everybody else. Even with his popular video Between the Lines, no one got overly excited — not even Wilcox. He's probaly sung it a lot lately because boredom was certainly evident. Monotony in sound and some bad vibrations from bass feedback rumbled and hummed the poor old Black Walnut building.

Wilcox has been generating bad vibrations bigger than this gig — fights have broken out at his last 15 concerts. Which may explain his paranoic entrance, as well as his insistence on 20 security in attendance at Niagara. Two enforcers manned each side of the stage — "If so much as a cup gets thrown on stage, he's gone," Hugo Bessems, student liaison and 10-year veteran as pub manager, said, referring to strict contractual requirements.

"I've seen him three times and he was better in Toronto," Jennifer Coward said. "But I love him, he's Canadian!" Dave Illman found the concert to be "refreshing versions of old Wilcox classics."

Good thing the crowd would talk because the closest any interview with Wilcox got was his face through the door to shake hands with SAC social convener Felix Lostracco and his pal Randy Conlon, president.

The encore songs "hup hup hupped" everyone back into a Wilcox frenzy and even his eyeballs got white again aimed up at that silly spot on the ceiling. The performance ended with a contract encore at midnight. He ended the show with Too Cool, and he was.

He was last seen skulking out the west doors of the Black Walnut building with his plastic shopping bag to climb into a limo. Thanks, Dave, you were worth the wait for the first hour but you were just too cool for the rest.

Visual variety lifts art gallery's finale

By GAIL ATKINSON
Staff Writer

Wonderful watercolors grace the gallery walls in Hennepin Hall. Such a contrast: floating, swirling colors of dynamic intensity, stark softness in spattered combinations of opaque and translucent paint — yet they complement each other.

Bronze sculpture is scattered amid paintings in interesting contrasts of graceful line but not without the raw, natural property of the medium.

Painter Melanie Davies Persia and sculptor Beverly Sneath will exhibit their work until the end of December.

The depth and darkness of bronzes based around light meshes of color make for an appealing variety of visual interpretations.

Motion is consistent in the works of Ms. Davies Persia. Crimson, fuschia and turquoise scream from some sections vanishing into others in a linear mesh of faded flow in Billowing Eurythmics. Angular intensities wash out into the stark white ground of Conception. a marbled mass of medium.

Corpus Jurus, a striking and impressive piece, appears strongest in color — deep purples, blues and reds — with great activity and daring.

Blotched and blotted Ribbons and Bows is textured white with a spattered and flattened surface of blues, yellows and greens.

Personal progression in painting and sculpture is evident in this exhibition, as is successful, confident style

This visual variety is a fitting finale to the 1988 gallery season — indicative of continued interesting and exciting art.

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My Sweater size ____ /
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I prefer Gold Silver Costume Jewellery
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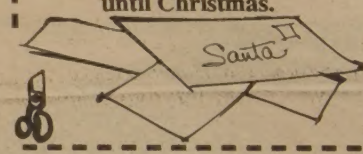

Brantford Ph. 756-5230
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Vocational time halved

The proposal for the two-year college vocational program to be changed to a one-year certificate program was approved by the Board of Governors last Thursday, but has yet to receive final approval by the Ministry of Colleges and Universities.

The change should improve the program, save money, and enable students to "accomplish their program goals in a shorter time frame," Tom Busnarda, program co-ordinator said.

This would include a restructuring of courses and curriculum, he said.

What has to borne in mind is that students have such a range of abilities, he said.

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The spirit of Christmas...
Wishing you and yours the joy and happiness of family traditions remembered and celebrated at this special time of the year . Merry Chirstmas and Happy New Year
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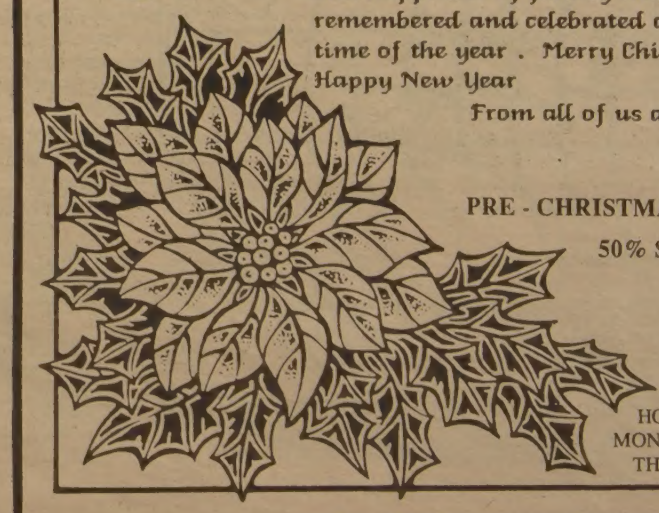

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Entertainment

First production big success

By TRACY SCHILZ
Staff Writer

There are story tellers of all kinds, but none as effective as those with visual effects; when sound and lighting are added they enhance the story.

The adventure story of Ali BaBa and the Forty Thieves begins with the fate of Scheherezade and whether she can continue telling stories to her king. She recalls many stories of magic and horror which are enhanced with excellent visual effects.

The students of the Theatre Arts program with the help of guest director Lin Joyce and guest designer Warren Hartman presented D'Arcy McHayle's adaption of Ali BaBa with all the magic and clarity of professionals at the Threatre at Brock University Wednesday night, and this was only a dress rehearsal. When the play closes next week — it moves to Brock's Playhouse Tuesday for three days — thousands of children will have seen it.

Colorful

Brilliant contrasting colors of the costumes, the authenticity of stage props, and the music all combined to take the audience to a far-away land, while the cast kept them enthralled with the story by laughing at, or with, the cast.

With enthusiasm and energy the cast's portrayal of the characters was convincing. Chief Thief Richard Kenyon was a scoundrel whose skill at talking out of both sides of his mouth convinced Ali Baba, but built apprehension in the audience.

This production has something for all members of the family: the struggle between men and women, or imbalance depending on the characters, is full of charm and wit for the adults, and seen as humor to the children.

Strong, kind Ali BaBa, Ian Gschwind, and his wife Morgiana, Natili Hylton, are opposites to his brother and sister-in-law. The sister-in-law, Badalbazoora, played by Elvie Antonacci, is a loud mouth shrew condescending to everyone she meets.

This childrens Christmas production opens Dec. 13 and the Brock Playhouse and runs until Dec. 15 with three performances each day: 10 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Towering above in his evil spirit Chief Thief, Richard Kenyon, duels against benevolent Ali BaBa, Ian Gschwind, who is protecting his wife Morgiana, Natilie Hylton in the children's Christmas production of Ali BaBa and the Forty Thieves. Photo by Tracy Schilz

Blue Zone madness destroys art of song

By ELAINE WILSON
Staff Writer

From now until the end of time, Nov. 30 will forever be remembered as the darkest day in Niagara College history. It was the day the school managed to send the art of song back to the Dark Ages. That was the day Niagara entered the Blue Zone.

Held at the Aqua Duck and sponsored by the Student Administrative Council, the pub brought in about 100 people who checked their coats and their diginity at the door and went on stage to herald the audience with their favorite songs. There were no survivors.

The pub was held in association with Labatt and its Niagara representative Ed Neal; the show consisted of audience members singing along to selected songs. The results of the night sent the music industry back to its beginnings.

Randy Conlon, SAC president, and co-conspirators Filix Lostrocco, social convemer and Dave "Freddie" Mio, first-year law and security student, were guilty of songslaughter as they turned the Rascals' Good Lovin' into a frightening spectacle of terror. Felix did, however, appear quite at home with the microphone — perhaps he speaks into the mike a little more than he lets on.

But the reign of terror did not stop there — Randy and Freddie returned to punish the crowd with the Eagles' Hotel California; somehow they made their version of the tune the longest in the history of rock and roll.

Another vocalist, guilty of assault with a deadly vocal range was Chris Pizzacolla who did Elvis' Blue Swede shoes that is not suitable to print.

Darren Newbold, first-year law and security student, tried to top Chris with another Elvis tune. He and the small group of back-up singers committed mass tuneocide with Don't Be Cruel; unfortunately, their song was.

After hearing of the performances, the King was spotted at a 7-11 in Minnesota where it was reported that he ate more than 100 Twinkies to console himself; afterwards he returned to his self-imposed exile, and was overheard saying he would never be seen again.

The most flagrant violater was Peter Ruggiero, vice-president of external affairs, who murderd the Beach Boys' classic California Girls; rumor flew that a tremor was felt over the grave of Dennis Wilson as Peter bludgeoned the tune.

Later in the evening Peter returned to the stage — he obviously has no regard for the well-being of his fellow man — with Bon Jovi's Livin' on a Prayer. He behaved shamelessly on stage, allowing fans to tear off his clothes and a mysterious tawdry woman to bury her face in his — er — "chest". It was believed there were subliminal messages in the music as there was no rational reason the crowd should have behaved as they did.

Other songs destroyed in the musical debacle were Soul Man by the Blues Brothers, the Rodeo Sone (use your immagination), and a classic Supremes song.

But the low point of the evening came when an unknown man innocently began Bryan Adams' Heaven — after that everything went straight to hell. A spokesman for Bryan Adams said the artist is revoking all claims to the song as "it may irreparably damage his career if an association to the Blue Zone version gets out."

All the participants in the "festivities" received sweatshirts, T-shirts, hats or various other prizes for their performances. To add insult to the injury, they also received a tape recording of their songs.

It is the responsibility of all college students to ensure the offenders do not try to further their musical careers. No questions will be asked if certain people are never heard from again.

Charity needs mittens

The Christmas tree in the Continuing Education office in Hennepin Hall isn't growing some new sort of pinecones — those are mittens.

CE is taking donations for their third annual Christmas Food Basket project and one of the items they are taking is mittens which are hung on the tree.

In addition, they are accepting nutritious and filling non-perishable foods, new small toys and knitted scarves and earmuffs.

These can be dropped off in the boxes at the CE office, Hennepin Hall, and the main office at the St. Catharines campus.

This year's donations will go to the non-profit, non-denominational, Christmas Basket Exchange Program in Niagara Falls.

Last year, more than $700 was donated to Associated Services of St. Catharines.

St. John Ambulance

Breathe easier at Niagara!

NO SMOKING NO SMOKING NO SMOKING

As of January 2, 1989, smoking will be allowed only in designated areas. All other areas in the College will be smoke-free.

In September, 1989, the College will be a completely smoke-free environment.

NIAGARA COLLEGE SINCE 1967 REGION OF NIAGARA OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY

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What's hot this Christmas? Holstein cows and sweaters

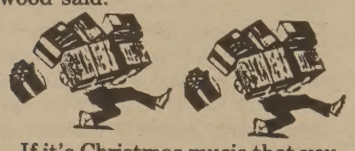
By BERNIE PUCHALSKI
MARK TAYTI
Staff Writer

The seasonal spending spree has already begun at the Seaway Mall in Welland, the greatest commercial free-for-all known to mankind. The only limits are imagination and the thickness of pocketbooks.

This Christmas, hot items include Holstein cows, remote control cars and the Rovers singing Grandmother Got Run Over By A Reindeer. Old favorites like Chinese Checkers, puppies and books are also popular. Here's what else is hot or not for Christmas 1988.

At **Pet World**, puppies, kittens and aquariums are the big Yuletide sellers. People who buy cuddly presents usually put them on hold till Christmas and pick them up on Christmas Eve, said saleswoman Joanne Harwood.

Pet owners age five to 14 descend on pet stores at Christmas to buy gifts for their furry buddies. For cats and dogs, there are Christmas shockings. Lucky dogs have their stockings filled with shampoo, raw-hide chewies, dog treats, a dog fod sample and a squeaky toy. Good cats will find catnip, foam balls, cat treats, and a litter shovel in thier stockings. Every year the store gets 25 of each and by season's end there are only one or two left, Miss Harwood said.



If it's Christmas music that you are choosing remember that Kenny Rogers and Dolly Parton Christmas album is the most sought after. Heather Jonah, manager at the **Seaway Mall record store**, said, "A lot of people buy gift certificates. You shouldn't send your parents out to buy rock and roll."

She said the most off-the-wall album requested for Christmas listening is probably The Rovers singing Grandmother Got Run Over by a Reindeer. Big Pop hits selling fast are The Beach Boys , Kokomo; and Don't Worry, Be Happy, by Bobby Ferring.

It's back to the basics at **Leisure World** game and hobby shop. Basic games, basic doll houses, and basic toys are attracting the Yuppies with buying power, Brian Chicki, owner, said. "They are buying what they played with when they were kids." Monopoly, Clue, good puzzles are the rage with everyone wanting good value for their money, Mr. Chicki said. "Chinese checkers are hot."

Brian Pychel, **Radio Shack** manager, said "Kids are going crazy over remote control cars this year." He sells a dozen a day. Keyboards, robotic banks, and computers are also good movers. For all those toys that come with batteries not included, "we must stock the shelves three or four times a day, literally." The hottest items in the store this Christmas are the cellular and cordless phones. "A lot of families get together and buy grandma and grandpa cordless phones to make their lives easier. Cellular phones are usually bought for the professional type.

The husband or boyfriend alone in a woman's clothing store at Christmas had better have a few things straight before he goes. Diane Mascia, manager at **Smart Set** said men should "know the size, color and style." She said a lot of people bring the intended receivers in to pick their own gift. She expects the next few weeks to be "hectic and exciting." Is the rush on?

"Oh god, yes," she said. "I've had customers buying for Christmas in July."

Girls going into men's clothing stores are not going to buy traditional ties, socks and gloves. **Elks** "Spirit River" line of casual men's wear is selling off the shelves. "Casual pants are selling like 90," Lisa Mollo, Elk's retailer, said. "Sweaters are always good sellers at Christmas. There's nothing easier than buying a sweater."

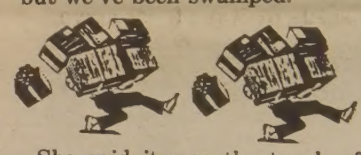
The **A-Ha** novelty store had their mugs "just fly out" last year, but 1988 is the year of Holstein cows, California Raisins, Mickey Mouse, and Garfield. Sheeptale sweatshirts with witticisms like "The sheep is going to hit the fan" and funny Christmas cards are also popular. Last year Alf was big but this year, "he's retired," said Florence Lau, A-Ha saleswoman. Sales are up from last year and people are spending the money this year.

Christmas for bookstores is "one of our heaviest seasons" and sales this year have been excellent," said **Coles** bookstore saleswoman Margaret Caron. Gift certificates are really popular.

Top sellers for this Christmas are They Way We Were by Ken Bell in hardcover and Stephen King's Tommyknockers in paperback. Last year the big seller was Tommyknockers in the hardcover edition. Stephen King is a popular gift.

The **Venus Lingerie** store had sexy, slinky apparel but it is Angel skin-satin nightgowns with flannel backings and terry cloth robes which are hot tickets in lingerie this Christmas. "Angel skin is sold out and we can't get any more," saleswoman Murph Sabucco said. Though this is their biggest time of the year, business is "down a little this year."

Once you have bought all your gifts you can get them wrapped free of charge by dedicated wrapper Norma Clark. On Dec. 1 the wrapping booth was hopping. "We didn't think it would be busy today since it was the first day, but we've been swamped."



She said it was the touch of snow which might have put people into the Christmas spirit. Her most pleasant memory was last year when a little boy gave her a hug for wrapping his gifts. This year people seem to be buying lots of sweaters, lingerie, and pictures she said.

All retailers in the mall agree shopping early is wise but there is little accord on what's the hottest gift for this Christmas season. The true test is when the gift is opened on Christmas morning. If it appeals to the receiver, it's hot; if it doesn't, it's not.

Mickey Mouse and Garfield are two of the hot items for this Christmas season. These friendly characters are sitting on top of a cash register at the A-Ha store in the Seaway Mall awaiting your perusal. Photo by Bernie Puchalski

Christmas is a drag

July Ninth, out comes the
Christmas fares,
Buy this, buy that, buy my wares:
A V.C.R., color t.v., microwave.
Do angels fly? Does Jesus save?
Baby child, born in a manger,
From G.I. Joe to the Lone Ranger,
Showing your love,

From the palm of your glove.
But it's tough if you're poor
And you can't buy no more.

You've spent all your money,
To hear your honey,

Tell you you're cheap,
You rotten creep.
And your daughters and sons
Didn't get their guns.

No rocket booster, no Uzi,
Here's a puzzle kid, don't be
choosy.

We're all so demanding.
Peace, love and understanding?
Christmas is a drag,

When you eat from a bag.
And on Christmas morn,
You look forlorn,

As you pass the bread,
You tell them, Santa's dead.

Bernie Puchalski

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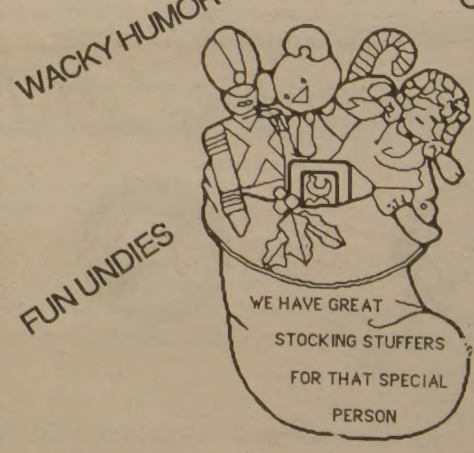

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Purchasing exotic items

By SHELLEY MOORE
Staff Writer

Hauntingly melodious East Indian music wafted through the air, enticing people to wander among exotic crafts from 18 Countries. Differing tongues and dialects were the only factors missing to complete the image of market places in far away lands.

This was the Tecumseh Foyer when the Student Administrative Council sponsored an international craft show Nov. 14, 15 and 16.

Sweaters of many colors and patterns from Nepal, Peru and Guatemala appealed not only to the eye, but to the touch as well.

Hand-shaped silver from Nepal, Mexico, Thailand and Bali, inlaid with precious stones, was displayed in great quantities.

Brightly colored dolls of blue, red, green, black and white cloth; puppets; masks, painted brightly or in natural wood; paintings and delightful lacquered carvings demonstrated the artistic ability of the Kenyan, Thailand and Indionesian cultures.

Intricately patterned leather bangles, belts and bags, were displayed with bright scarves, interwoven with metallic thread, and jackets from Tibet, Egypt, Java, Ecuador and Morocco were available in every color the eye can concieve.

Kerry Andrews and Ann Marie Smatana, first-year dental students, try to decide which of all the exquisite silver earrings offered by Kevin Trask's company during the display on Nov. 14, 15 and 16, they should buy. The decision was a difficult but pleasant one to make as all of the jewellery was extremely tempting.

Photo by Julie Slack

Overseas

All of these articles are collected during the winter by La Compagnie L.W. Trask Company, started three years ago by Kevin Trask, which travels to Third World Countries buying these goods and bringing them back to Canada to share with other people.

He said it helps if you can speak more than one language; aside from English, Mr. Trask speaks Spanish, French and Thai.

During the summer Mr. Trask and three others, Jane McKenzie, Mark Stoddart and Andrew Copeland, display their goods at folk festivals; in the fall they travel to universities and colleges throughout Ontario and Quebec with their wares.

The business originated from his travelling to other countries and bringing native crafts back to sell in an attempt to subsidize some of the costs of the trips.

It's a lot of fun and people don't mind purchasing because they know it's for Third World Countries," Miss McKenzie said.

Most people really enjoy buying the exotic things offered by La Compagnie L.W. Trask Company; however, some people felt that the crafts were a little over priced. What they don't realize is that each item must be bought from "the people who actually make it." Duties and taxes on the goods must be taken into consideration when pricing, as well as the cost of going to get them, and bringing them back to sell.

"There are a lot of laws about importing, marketing and labelling goods that I have to follow," Mr. Trask said. Each item must have a tag on it stating where it is from, and what it is made of. He is also required to have a number given him by Consumer Affairs so that, if the information on the tags turns out to be incorrect, he can be identified as the seller.

Helping

The crafts may be brought back to Canada by way of "air cargo, air freight, air mail or sea mail," but Mr. Trask "brings as much as the airline will allow," back with him.

"I wanted to be able to raise a little money for Third World development," Mr. Trask said. In helping them help themselves by selling the crafts,"I am helping myself too."

Third world traveller exposes other cultures

By TERRY MOORE
Staff Writer

If you felt as if you entered a different country as you passed through the Tecumseh foyer Nov. 14, 15 and 16, Kevin Trask has achieved one of his goals.

"What I want to do is pull someone out of their normal Canadian existence and show them something from another culture."

The 30-year-old, the force behind the Foreign Lands market here last week, has another goal: to raise money for the development of Third World nations. The marketplace economy of Elora, Ont., his birthplace, may have influenced his career choice.

Four years ago on a trip to Mexico to study Spanish and folk music, he contemplated a market even then.

With $5,000 borrowed from his father, Mr. Trask bought his first lot of imported goods to start his market.

After four years, "a couple of them having to work like hell...it just gets better," he said.

But, he doesn't recommend this business for everyone. "To do a job like this — it's a full time job." He works an 18-hour day.

If he has the contacts, he can travel through six countries in three days, as he recently did. But, "You have to know what people want...you have to know how to sell."

He is touring Ontario and Quebec exclusively with his market. Niagara is only one of 10 colleges and universities to receive his touring market. St. Clair college is next on his agenda.

KEVIN TRASK

SAC has agreed to donate its $700 share of the $4,650 in total proceeds to a Third World Country and to Christmas Basket, a local charity.

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PARTICIPACTION

WHAT MOST ADULTS HAVE YOU DON'T WANT

Gum disease.
It affects 9 out of 10 Canadian adults. It's responsible for 70% of all adult tooth loss. And it's virtually unnoticeable in the early stages.
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Brush and floss carefully.
And see your dentist for preventive checkups.
Got it? Good.

DENTAL HEALTH
Good For Life
CANADIAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION

Christmas at the Niagara News

'Twas the night before Christmas vacation
When all through the Niagara News,
Not a typewriter was clicking, nor a light table in use.
All stories were spiked by the editor's chair
To assure our return would not see it bare.
Reporters were dressed, all ready to go,
With visions of families and...Ho Ho Ho.
Mrs. Blue finished her coffee, as Jelbert flicked his tie,
And everyone prepared for a temporary goodbye.
When out in the hall there arose such a commotion
Being journalists, instantly we had a notion.
Some of us grabbed our paper and pen
Still others picked up their cameras again.
At first we were sure it was all a deception,
But no, it was merely our faulty perception.
For out in the hall was a total surprise,
Not a single reporter could believe his eyes.
No pens flew on paper, no cameras went click,
Out in the lounge was...yes...St. Nick.
So amazingly quickly we were sure we knew,
And so, naturally, the questions flew:
Where's Dasher? Where's Dancer? Where's Prancer? Where's Vixen?
And Commet and Cupid and Donner and Blitzen?
"Oh if I only knew," old St. Nicholas cried.
"I would not be in this terrible bind.
We were out flying on a pre-Christmas run,
When the reindeer heard the crack of a gun.
As scared as they were they turned upside down,
And the next thing I knew, I was lying on the ground."
We immediatley knew our assistance was needed,
Even before St. Nicholas pleaded.
We ran to the phones to use our connections,
Mr. Jelbert informed St. Nick of our intentions.
We searched for those reindeer, high and low,
But in Welland, just where could they go?
Not on the roof top of Simcoe or Lundy,
All puzzled over where the reindeer could be.
We looked at Black Walnut and Hennepin Hall,
It seemed St. Nick's pets were nowhere at all.
When we finally found them they stood rather regally,
There was but one little problem, they had parked illegally.
Our adventure was over, the reindeer were found,
And we knew St. Nick would soon leave the ground.
We returned to the news room, our stories to write,
It appeared as though it would be a long night.
Would anyone believe the stories we'd tell?
That on the Welland Campus St. Nicholas fell.
Were the stories worth writing, would anyone believe,
We'd actually seen St. Nicholas before Christmas Eve?
Were the pictures we'd taken really special at all?
Or would people think he was just from the mall?
We had just decided they were not worth writing,
When, from above, came the sounds of prancing and pawing.
His reindeer once more under control,
St. Nick was headed for the North Pole.
As he flew away a sound reached each ear,

"Even if no one believes,
IT'S THE SCOOP OF THE YEAR."

Shelley Moore

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Sports

The hockey Knights close in for another goal against Erie Community College. Niagara beat the Erie Kaats 9-5 at the Welland Arena Saturday, Nov. 26. The Kaats, who are from Orchard Park, New York, proved no match for the Knights who had a 7-1 lead after two periods.Photo by Bill Sawchuk

Niagara in 1st

Hockey team tramples Herd

By BILL SAWCHUK
Staff Writer

There are times when you have to change your style a bit to win a hockey game. It takes a great deal of discipline.

The hockey Knights showed that discipline, yet played physically enough to intimidate and wear down their opponents, the University of Buffalo in a convincing 8-2 victory Saturday night.

The aggressive Knights — and that may be understating it — are the most feared team in the league; but in Amherst, New York, they played a disciplined game. They kept hitting and kept their cool in the intense, physical contest.

"It was a superb effort," an elated coach Fred Bassi said after the game. "I can't say anything more because there are not enough words to describe how well they played. We physically beat them."

"This is the best start ever in 19 years at Niagara College," he said about the team's 6-0 start.

Chris Vandermeer led the Knights to victory with a hat trick, and Mike Mooradian picked up four points on two goals and two assists. Even goalie Jim Darling got on the score sheet with an assist.

WORKED HARDER

"They worked harder, hit harder and took the game away from us," Richard Brooks, University of Buffalo coach, said. "Plus we made some brutal mental mistakes."

The Knights trailed 1-0 after the first period as they were penalized seven times and became a little tentative, something the team couldn't afford because of an efficient University of Buffalo powerplay.

During the period, Jim Darling kept the Knights in the game making save after remarkable save with some help from his goal post and shot-blocking defenceman Mike Martineau.

"Jim did everything but stand on his head in the first period,' forward Stu Gallardi said.

However, the Knights came out in the second period a completely different team. Gone was the tentativeness and the team got back to their physical style.

"Fred told us between periods we were playing them and the ref, but not to get down, and keep hitting and try to stay out of the box," Stu said.

The team followed Mr. Bassi's advice.

The Knights came out hitting in second period; and, in a turning point of the game, Rod Estabrooks caught Buffalo's Gary Cullen with his head down for the best body check this season. Having lost his helmet, the dazed University of Buffalo player started towards the wrong side of the ice to get to his bench.

PRAISE FROM BUFFALO

"They deserve all the credit in the book," Mr. Brooks said. "They kept hitting, took the body; we didn't. They worked hard in the corners; we didn't."

Niagara tied the game on Chris Vandermeer's goal at 9:03 of the second period when he converted a pass with a hard shot into the top corner assisted by Mike Martineau and Jim Darling.

Knights put the game away in a 1:23 span at the end of the period with three goals by Mike Mooradian, from Ken Bilodeau and Jim Denardi; Shawn Sexton, from Jamie MacCaskill and Stu Gallardi; and a short-handed goal by Chris Vandermeer.

In the third period the Knights continued to grind it out and produced goals from Dan Nadeau, assisted by Mike Martineau and Mike Mooradian; Mike Mooradian, from Jim Beattie; and Chris Vandermeer, from Nick Macken and Mike Mooradian.

Mr. Bassi was quick to credit his defence and goaltending.

"We have five solid defence men and the two best goalies in the leaugue," he said.

KNIGHT MOVES: The line of Stu Gillardi, Shawn Sexton, and Rod Estabrooks has a new name, the lunch pail line ... UB's number 6, Rich Anderson, acts as his number sake for the Buffalo Sabres, Phil Housley, and plays like him: rushing up ice and getting caught out of position constantly ... UB's fraternities were well represented in the stands and picked Dan Ruetz as their "favorite " player...Buffalo State coach Steve Ferrantino, scouting at the game, agreed Niagara got "jobbed by the ref" in the first period, and said he would lodge a complaint for the Knights ... the Knights end up with only two more penalties than UB, 21-19; but they evened out in the third when a frustrated UB took some stupid ones ... hard-living Fred Bassi, sick all week, set a great example for the team by coaching both weekend games ... Mike Mooradian just missed a hat trick firing wide of an open net in the last two minutes.

Ski club brings back high hopes for slopes

The Niagara College Ski Club is underway with what promises to be another "thriving year of skiing."

Michael Ferreri, ski club president for a second year, said the club promises more organization and more functions for its new and returning members.

"We already have two functions planned," Michael said. "We'll be going to Collingwood Jan. 27. That one's already fully booked. But we are also going to Holiday Valley starting Jan. 11. We still need about 20 people for that trip."

The ski club offers two membership packages: a $165 package including membership fees, seven trips including transportation, seven ski lessons at any desired level, and a keg and barbecue party at the end of the year; and a second package costing $205 which includes ski rentals. The club will leave every Wednesday for each excursion.

MORE MEMBERS

The club already has more members than last year at this time — about 70 compared to last year's 60; there were about 80 members for all of last year.

"I really encourage more people to get involved," Michael said. "You can see how good the club is because of the response we've already had."

Michael said he and the club's executive, Walter Lucchetta and Mario Sarieni, vice-presidents, are able to offer great trip deals because "the money we get from the Student Administrative Council helps a lot, especially with the new structure of the SAC allotments."

Michael said the club will also offer plenty of other social functions including pubs and a year-end awards banquet to its membership.

Hockey Knights slaughter University of Rochester

The hockey Knights got last weekend off to a good start with an 11-1 victory over the University of Rochester.

Scoring for the Knights were Dan Reutz with three goals, Mike Mooradian and Rod Estabrook with two, and Chris Vandermeer, Mike Martineau, Dan Nadeau, James Ward all with singles.

Brian Collins played a solid game in goal.

The Knights led 2-0 after the first period, 4-1 after the second, and then exploded for seven goals in the final frame.

Dan Nadeau picked up two assists, Jim Denardi three, Rod Estabrook two, Dan Ruetz two, Stu Gallardi two, Chris Vandermeer three, Mike Morradian, Ken Bilodeau and Mike Martineau with one each.

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Sports

Women Knights writing their own Cinderella story

By GAIL ATKINSON
Staff Writer

It was a Cinderella story for the women's volleyball Knights last Saturday, when they came from behind to claim second place in OCAA standings. From a slow start in the morning cinders, they came ahead to virtually win the handsome prize in the gala afternoon of exciting point-to-point play.

Niagara played host to a five-team tournament — a follow-up from the six-team tourney Nov. 25 and 26 at George Brown in Toronto.

Coach Judy Halaiko said of the Knights' play in that competition, "The thing I'm really pleased with is that you look at most of the teams and they have one or two key players — most teams played the same six...I was able to play everybody. Everybody did their job."

They did their jobs again when they were called upon in a gruelling day of playing almost every hour on the hour.

SLOW START

Morning play Saturday, Dec. 3, began against the Cambrian Golden Shield and the Knights didn't fare so well: 12-15, 15-11, 7-15. They met Redeemer next and beat them Royal-ly: 15-7, 15-5. It began a decisive turnaround that set the trend for the rest of the tournament.

They met the Canadore Kittens and volleyed all over them. The Knights had a lot more height, a lot more strength, and so much more power that it often caught them overkilling smashes out of the ballpark. Harder hits, great setting and alert timing showed easily they were the better team.

B.J. Frost was called upon consistently at the net and her excellent timing, passing and returning were outstanding. Leah Kulas also played a terrific game with target spikes and strategic tips.

Canadore was all over the court compared to Niagara's tight formation and unfailing team effort. The Kittens fisted, slapped and missed. The Knights played a controlled game with a few minor mishaps, but none so undisciplined as Canadore. Knights scratched Kittens 15-8, 15-11.

LAST AND SCARY

The Lambton Lions were the last team to meet the Knights on that Super-ball Saturday. They were big, tough and scary. They were killer hitters. They came into the match with six wins out of seven that day.

"That was a key game," Miss Halaiko said. "Especially taking it in two. They would have been in second place had we not won."

The Lions found holes in the Knights' defence and won consecutive points. Miss Halaiko called a couple of time-outs to get the team re-grouped and less anxious.

It was the Lions' size and strength that became their downfall. Their roar was bigger than their bite. It had been a long day. Combined with the Lions' slipping grip on control and teamwork, the Knights were superior in serves and sets.

Sharon Grenier played an aggressive no-holds-barred game despite an ankle taped to twice its normal size, injured a week before. Jody Smith endured dives for digs and severely stuffed her opposition repeatedly.

If there was a star player that rags-to-riches day, it was Leah Kulas. She averaged more aces and dug deep and spiked hard. But that day was a team day. Excellent, competitive, non-stop excitement.

For a two-year-old team to be second in league standings in mid-season is truly an accomplishment, a Cinderella story...now on to claim the handsome prize!

The women Knights took three out of four games in a tournament at Niagara, Saturday, Dec. 3. Shown getting in position for a spike, from back to front, are B. J. Frost, Pat Reynders, Sharon Grenier and Jody Smith. The women's team, in their second season of existence at Niagara, defeated Canadore, Redeemer and Lambton and lost to Cambrian College during the tournament putting them second in the over all OCAA standings. Photo by Shelley Moore

Ooops

The Labatts company provided the hockey bags for the college hockey team, not Molsons. Though this was the information given, the Niagara News regrets the error in the last issue, Nov. 25, 1988, Vol. 19 No. 5, on page 10, the sports page.

Student support only missing part

By BILL SAWCHUK
Staff Writer

It is a shame that so good a hockey team plays its home games in front of empty seats at the Welland Arena.

On a jubilant bus ride back to the college after Saturday night's victory over undefeated University of Buffalo, the players and coaching staff savored the victory.

This team is very, very good — maybe great.

However, amongst the cheers and laughter, Jim Denardi, a forward on the team, said something telling.

"Yeah, but nobody at the school cares."

Pessimistic people say this college is dying — well at least seriously ailing. Dropping enrolment, cut backs, and student apathy — all are pointed to as symptoms of this malaise.

But now we have a chance to feel good about something and get behind some fellow students who work hard. Not for marks or a lucrative job when they graduate, but because they love something, hockey.

Undefeated at 6-0 in league play, they have taken on everybody and have been nothing but a credit to the college.

Saturday night they went deep into the heart of western New York and beat the University of Buffalo 8-2.

In tension-filled atmosphere, the Knights fell behind 1-0 in the first period against a good team and no one could have blamed them if they had quit. The crowd was hostile, the refereeing pathetic, and they were fatigued having played the night before in Rochester.

But they didn't quit; they showed character. Digging in, the team refused to be rattled by the referee or the crowd, and fought back, winning by playing hockey as if they meant it — aggressively. They took no prisoners against a school about 10 times Niagara's size.

Coach Fred Bassi has built a team with all the components of a winner: three tough forward lines that keep coming at their opponents, solid defence, and great goaltending.

Playing takes up a lot of time and recognition is sparse — exept for a pat on the back from coach Bassi when things go well, or a boot in the butt when things go wrong(and believe me, Fred isn't afraid to boot somebody in the butt).

For many it is a last stop on the road to 11 p.m. old-timers-league games after a career of all-star, and Junior B competition. However, the players don't take it lightly. I challenge anyone to find me 20 harder working hockey players at any level of competition, or a team more deserving of support.

The team plays seven home games in the new year starting Jan. 7 against Conestoga College. Niagara students should give the team the support it deserves. They are a credit to the school and to Canadian hockey. They have my respect and deserve the student body's. Furthermore, they've done it the old fashioned way; they've earned it.

It's disgraceful they play at home in front of empty seats.

Hartman leads way

Men's volleyball finishes second in Sudbury tournament

By BILL SAWCHUK
Staff Writer

The Niagara Knights men's volleyball team finished second in an Ontario Colleges Athletic Association Division 2 tournament last weekend in Sudbury.

In the A pool standings, the Knights, with a record of 6-3 finished behind Cambrian College. Redeemer College and Canadore finished third and fourth in the pool with 3-6 records.

The male Knights defeated George Brown, Sir Sandford Fleming, and Algonquin College and were defeated by St. Lawrence College's Kingston campus and St. Lawrence College's Cornwall campus.

The Knights will return to action on Jan. 7 at Mohawk College in an exhibition tournament.

Against George Brown College, the Knights shook off an opening match loss to St. Lawrence College's Cornwall campus, with 15-1 and 15-10 victories recording 30 kills and eight blocked spikes.

Marc Sigouin was the top hitter for the Knights in this match with 12 kills and one stuff while Chris Mudjar contributed seven kills and three stuffs, and Brian McDonald five kills and two stuffs.

Rene Lanoix set consistently with the back court player's improved passing in this match as the Knights didn't let their opening match loss to St. Lawrence College's Kingston discourage them.

On Saturday, the Knights defeated Sir Sandford by identical scores of 15-10. The teams have developed a good rivalry and this match was no exception.

In the first game, the two teams were tied 10-10 before Niagara took control; and, in the second, the Knights maintained a three point lead throughout.

Niagara hit for 30 kills and stuffed 10 spikes. Brian McDonald led the offence with nine kills and Marc Sigouin had eight, Dave Harman and Scott Young four each, while Chris Mudjar and Rene Lanoix had two each.

Defensively Dave Hartman was the big man at the net with four stuffs.

Algonquin College, a team the Knights had not played before, put a scare into the Knights in the second game of the match by taking a 9-2 lead but the Knights stormed back for 12 straight points and a 15-11 victory. Niagara won the opening game easily 15-6.

Dave Hartman led the offence with eight kills while Chris Mudjar smashed five. The Knights' defence let down against Algonquin blocking a scant seven of 40 attempt.

Curlers victorious

The men's curling team won the Seventh Annual Niagara College Curling Bonspiel, Saturday Nov. 26. From left, Shawn Samuels, Kris Gowdy, Jeff Hoover, and Paul Gosselin. Photo by Bill Sawchuk

From Page One

Budget

complementary functions" for teachers and co-ordinators
-assess the funding level of all non-salary budget accounts
-eliminate all professional development leaves "with local union/association agreement"
-offer the "option" of 10-month positions to staff
-increase class sizes and lengthen the college day

The committee realizes that some of these recommendations can begin immediately whereas "others will require considerable discussion and/or negotiation,"before they can be implemented. "The recommendations recognize this...are predicated on the assumption that some of the major productivity improvements," will not take effect until Sept. 1 1989.

COLLEGE AFFECTED

Though some of these suggestions may affect the college's "ability to attract and service students," the college must stay within a "infinite budget and provide a range of programs and services that can be afforded within that budget. Because of this, it "sees no option but to seek ways to increase revenue, become more productive and reduce or eliminate services that will impact least on our clients," he said.

The impact of program cuts and suspensions "lead to a long-term drop in revenue" unless students affected transfer over to other existing programs, something the committee believe"will happen to an increasingly limited extent as the program base of the College is eroded."

The committee report said the college must do all it can to avoid "entering into the downward spiral that is precipitated by program cuts..."

Have a merry Christmas

FASHION CLUB

Season's Greetings

At this special time of year the **Fashion Club Boutique** would like to thank you for your patronage. We look forward to serving you in 1989! May the joy and happiness of the Christmas season be with you.

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